



## Highlights from the Press – Appassionata Estate

### WHITE WINES



#### 2022 Appassionata Über Sauvignon Blanc Chehalem Mountains

**[93] *James Suckling***

This trim but super flavorful wine offers explosive aromas of torn basil leaves, fresh thyme and lemon blossoms, with equally bold, tangy flavors of grapefruit, white pepper, earthiness and plenty of crisp acidity. *August 15, 2024. Reviewed by Jim Gordon*

**[92] *Decanter***

You won't find much Sauvignon Blanc in the Willamette Valley; this one is crafted from a 0.4ha parcel in the estate vineyard. It's treated to acacia barrels and concrete fermentation with wild yeasts — vibrant aromatics of green mangoes, lychee and rich ripe papaya. The palate shows a nice fleshy texture cut across by bright Meyer lemon pulp, a steak of oyster brine and a finish of salted lemon wedge. *October 2024, Reviewed by Clive Pursehouse*



#### 2021 Appassionata Über Sauvignon Blanc Chehalem Mountains

**[93] *Northwest Wine Report* — Critic's Choice —**

The aromas are subdued, with notes of herb, lime verbena, other citrus, and whiffs of tropical fruit. The flavors are broad in feel, coating the palate, showing weight, layering, and nuance. Brisk, lemony acidity keeps it all in focus and the interest high. It's delicious. *January 27, 2023*

**[93] *JebDunnuck.com***

Its layered and elegant perfume lifts from the glass with notes of wildflowers, apricot, and salted grapefruit. Medium-bodied, with vibrant, tension-driven acidity and a harmonious core of fruit to soften it out through the palate without being pungent, it's an age-worthy Sauvignon Blanc that will continue to improve over the next 4-5 years. *September 19, 2023—Reviewed by Audrey Frick*

**[93] *OwenBargreen.com***

The palate is deep and beautifully textured, showing almost an oily mouthfeel. Lemon rind and pink grapefruit zest combine with shades of sourdough bread and stony minerals on the palate. Refined, novel, sleek and elegant, this will pair with a dizzying array of foods. *October 2022*

**[92] *Decanter***

The resulting wine walks a tight wire between freshness and creamy texture. Floral and fruit aromatics of ripe nectarine, seaspray, cut green apple and English Hawthorne. The palate is fleshy stone fruits, sliced ripe peach, apricot flesh and lemon curd. *May 2023*

**[92] *Wine Enthusiast* — Editors' Choice —**

Classic aromas and flavors of gooseberries, lime, green apple, and freshly cut grass show up, as does a dynamite one-two talc and saline punch. There's also an intriguing savory note similar to porcini mushrooms. Tart acidity combines with a surprisingly creamy texture. This is a fantastic drinking experience. *April 2023*

**[92] *James Suckling***

Aromas of glazed lemons, sliced apples, honeysuckle, raw almond and dried herbs. Medium- to full-bodied with vivid acidity that gives lots of tension and energy. Round and polished texture with a flavorful and chalky finish. *April 2023*



**2020 Appassionata Chardonnay  
Willamette Valley**

**[95] Decanter**

Generous aromatics of lemon curd, honeyed ginger and grilled pineapple show a richness of fruit. The palate is lithe while offering concentration. White peach flesh, toasted hazelnuts, and concentrated lemon pastry cream are all expressive and harmonious. *Reviewed by Clive Pursehouse, October 1, 2024*

**[94] James Suckling**

A beautiful wine in a tight, stony, mineral-rich style with great concentration and a lingering finish. A medium body with fresh, vibrant acidity supporting green apples, lime zest, subtle almonds and a hazelnut flourish in the finish. Built for improvement with age. *August 15, 2024. Reviewed by Jim Gordon*



**2019 Appassionata Chardonnay  
Willamette Valley**

**[95] JebDunnuck.com**

Forward with punchy reduction on opening, the wine pours a bright medium straw color and offers aromatics of lemon verbena, bright green apple, fresh peach, and smoky wet stones. Medium to full-bodied, it opens on the palate to juicy pure fruit, with good concentration, a silky mouthfeel, and tension-driven acidity with an electric energy that courses through the long finish. As someone who enjoys a bit of reduction in some cases, this is a very attractive wine now and it will have another 10 years ahead of it. *September 19, 2023—Reviewed by Audrey Frick*

**[94] Wine Enthusiast — Cellar Selection —**

Anyone questioning Chardonnay's potential in the Willamette Valley should try this rich and sophisticated wine. A silky texture, is met with mouthfilling flavors of orange sorbet, pineapple and challah bread, as well as a hint of mint. The aromas of lemon curd and petrichor are equally delightful. *April 2023*

**[93] Decanter**

Gorgeously aromatic with the signature notes of cool climate Chardonnay accented by two years on lees. Sweet floral notes of gardenia, jasmine and grilled stone fruits. The palate is lush, with ample lees-driven texture. Savory herbs accent a lushly fruit-driven palate. Flavours of grilled peach, pineapple, green tea and wet chalk. A stunning Chardonnay that will age another 8-10 years. *May 2023, Reviewed by Clive Pursehouse*

**[93] Wine Spectator**

Elegantly styled yet dynamic, with polished pear and apple flavors that are laced with lemon tart and orange blossom tones that glide on the sleek finish. *June 2023*

**[93] OwenBargreen.com**

Rich and intense, with a seamless texture, this offers toasty oak with vanilla cream, roasted pineapple and suggestions of buttered brioche on the palate. Very Oregon meets Sonoma, this is delicious Chardonnay to savor now and over the next decade. *October 2022*

**[93] James Suckling**

This is attractive with quince, green apples, dried flowers, sea shell aromas and flavors with some flinty minerality. Medium- to full-bodied with a creamy texture and notes of lime pith and pear drops. Bright and vivid with focused acidity and impressive balance. Mineral finish. *April 2023*

**[92] Northwest Wine Report — Cellar Stocker —**

The aromas bring notes of flint, candlewax, gun smoke, peach, and a whiff of cinnamon. A quite flavorful, textured palate follows, with notes of peach and citrus. A long, long fruit-filled finish ups the interest considerably. *January 27, 2023*

Continues



**2018 Appassionata Vineyard Riesling GG  
Chehalem Mountains**

**[95] *Decanter***

The aromatics are full, with petrol notes, crushed slate, and Meyer lemon pulp. The palate is concentrated and intense, with lemon oil and concentrated candied ginger. This evocative Riesling shows that Oregon's Willamette Valley is no one-trick pony. *Reviewed by Clive Pursehouse, October 1, 2024*

**[91] *James Suckling***

Aromas of baked lemons, beeswax, toasted sourdough and sweet spices on the nose follow through to a medium body with fresh acidity. Succulent and delicious, with a silky texture. Baked lemon character on the mid-palate and some floral influence toward the focused finish. *April 2024*

***Chicago Wine Press* Reviewed by W Peter Hoyne**

This gem is crystalline in appearance with a perfumed nose of white lilies and stone fruits. The wine is wonderfully complex and elegantly dry in style with undertones of star fruits, spiced pears, white tangerine, bee pollen and candied citron. It is mouthwatering and juicy with a hint of salinity and freshness in the background. The wine is impressive and focused through the long and memorable finish. A well-crafted wine and a great effort by the Loosen team. *August 2024*



**2017 Appassionata Vineyard Riesling GG  
Chehalem Mountains**

**[96] *JebDunnuck.com***

It offers a pale straw hue and is forward and expressive with aromas of flint, ripe apricot, petrol, and wild herbs. Medium-bodied, it offers a fantastic, rich, core of concentration along with a mineral, soft, stony texture and a long finish. It's certainly another age-worthy wine from Ernst Loosen. *September 19, 2023 – Reviewed by Audrey Frick*

**[94] *Wine Enthusiast* — Editors' Choice —**

The GG rested on its lees for a year after fermentation. Then, the wine debuted four years later — it was worth the wait. Apricot and Stargazer lily aromas are followed by flavors of lemon, marzipan, and wet slate. The wine's acidity is invigorating. *April 2023*

**[93] *Decanter***

Aged, savoury and delicious. Aromas are savoury and saline. Lanolin, dandelion, seafoam, and beeswax with hints of fresh herbs and dried lemon peel. The palate is brilliant, savoury and bright and complex. Energetic flavours of wet slate, savoury bee pollen, white tea and lanolin notes. The finish offers crushed stone vibrancy. *March 2023, Reviewed by Clive Pursehouse*

**[93] *OwenBargreen.com***

Lemon oil and kumquat zest combine with wet stones and suggestions of allspice dusted Japanese pear all combine on the palate. The unctuous mouthfeel and beautiful length really make this shine. As Erni Loosen says — Riesling can age! *October 2022*

**[92] *Ken's Wine Guide***

This white gold with a greenish hue colored dry-styled Riesling opens with Granny Smith apple and Juicy Fruit gum with hints of jasmine, banana, and apricot. On the palate, this wine is medium bodied with medium plus acidity. The mouthfeel is balanced, round and creamy with a nice texture. The flavor profile is pineapple, Anjou pear, and grapefruit blend with hints of chamomile tea, lemon, saline, and honey. The finish is dry, and its flavors linger and last for quite a while. *October 6, 2022*

**[90] *Wine Spectator***

Shows distinction and nuance, with a luscious, oily texture and expressive honeydew, spiced nut and orange blossom accents that glide on a crisp finish. *Web Only 2023*

**[90] *James Suckling***

This has a very flinty, reductive edge with petrichor and wet stones, as well as some meaty notes (it needs air), then reveals a more savory, nutty edge. The palate carries the same charcuterie-like thread. It distracts from the purity of the fruit. Good balance. *April 2023*

## RED WINES



### 2013 Appassionata “Fortissimo” Pinot Noir Dundee Hills

#### [97+] *The Drinks Business*

Floral. Crushed petals, rose water, a little thyme and oregano, Bergamot too. Pink rose petals in picture-perfect pixelated detail! That parfumeur’s rose petal scent too, very fine and pure — just more intense than one could ever find naturally. The petal character is reinforced by the black tea note and there’s a little sous bois too. There’s a very fresh fruit signature too. Raspberry, black raspberry, loganberry and red cherry, a hint of peach and apricot, cherry sweets (picking up that natural sweetness). White pepper. A hint of clove. This is aerial, energetic, lithe, crystalline and intensely limpid at least on the full and ample opening. Yet the grippy, grainy tannins build as this unfolds over the palate. Shimmering and gorgeous texturally, with plunge-pool clarity in the mid-palate. Still very much a vin de garde at this stage, this is a wine build for aging, yet it’s already very fluid on the extraordinary finish. I understand the logic of releasing this late now much more than I did for the 2012. I find this a big step up from the first release. *Reviewed by Collin Hay, August 2024*

#### [96] *Inside Bordeaux*

Soft ruby rose in colour, crushed rose petals on the nose, rose buds, redcurrant, so softly spoken and yet with concentration and lift. At the tertiary stage now 10 years old, forest floor and black truffles, gently stretching out on the finish, beautiful. Winemaker Timothy Malone, owner Ernie Loosen, Bob Bertheau former winemaker for Ste Michelle for almost two decades, and long term friend and collaborator with Ernie Loosen, now consultant.

*Reviewed by Jane Anson, August 30, 2024*

#### [95] *Decanter*

Still so well knit together at over a decade, this Pinot Noir shows elegant aromatics, with sweet red berries combines with cloves and forest floor. The palate shows finesse and still carries plenty of structure; sweet cherry flesh, rooibos, and pomegranate show depth and complexity through the finish. *October 2024, Reviewed by Clive Pursehouse*



### 2012 Appassionata “Fortissimo” Pinot Noir Dundee Hills

#### [95] *Wine Enthusiast* — Cellar Selection —

It is showing great acidity and fine-grained tannins. Its aromas and flavors of sweet red cherries, roasted pork shoulder and orange-peko tea are alive and kicking. *April 2023*

#### [95] *Decanter*

Smoked meat, fragrant strawberries and rose petals on the nose, delightfully beguiling and really draws you in on the first smell. Succulent and silky from the start, bright and piercing almost but then immediately softens bringing vanilla, clove, herbal raspberries, orange peel, touches of leather and meat into the mix. Still very much on the fruit but with accents of maturity that bring intrigue. Light and fresh, immediately so drinkable so feel free to pull the corks but this will also continue to improve with more age. Delicate yet layered with a certain push and style from the start and a real lingering of spice on the finish. Still a baby, only just starting to show what it’s made of. *July 2023, Reviewed by Georgina Hindle*

#### [95] *OwenBargreen.com*

Coming from the outstanding 2012 vintage, the ‘Fortissimo’ is silky and elegant with generous Linzer torte, tangerine zest and suggestions of forest floor, with light salty accents. This shows not only the potential of cellaring great Oregon Pinot Noir but beautifully showcases this stunning vintage in the Willamette Valley. *October 2022*

#### [94] *JebDunnuck.com*

It pours a deep red hue and unfolds to reveal layers of autumnal aromas of wild cherries, licorice, forest floor, and sweet baking spices. Medium-bodied with good concentration, it is long on the palate, with ripe tannins, a silky mouthfeel, a balanced structure, and remarkable purity of fruit. It’s in a wonderful spot now yet should mature gracefully. *September 19, 2023—Reviewed by Audrey Frick*

#### [94] *Wine Spectator*

Supple, detailed and surprisingly fresh and youthful for its age, offering fragrant cherry blossom and raspberry flavors layered with black tea and cinnamon. Finishes with refined tannins. *April 2023*

#### [94] *Northwest Wine Report*

The aromas draw you into the glass, with notes of dark raspberry, forest floor, cinnamon, and wild strawberry, showing plenty of detail. The palate is flavorful, layered, and seamless, showing exquisite balance, depth, length, and sophistication. It’s glorious, in a sweet spot now but with room to grow. Drink now, you won’t be disappointed. Give it five or 10 years, it’ll be there waiting for you. *January 27, 2023*

Continues

[93] *James Suckling*

Porcini mushrooms, currants, cranberries, rosemary, cloves and citrus zest. Bright and intense, with fine and tight tannins. So much energy and tension still. *April 2023*



2017 Appassionata “Andante” Pinot Noir, Dundee Hills

[95] *Decanter*

Savoury herbs and redolent violet aromas leap from the glass, chased by fresh fruit and spice. The palate is so well structured and built for another decade but generously gives red and blue fruits and savoury spice to those with less patience. Finesse drives the red fruit to the fore, fleshy raspberry, sweet cranberries and sweet blue fruit. Ample minerality and spice deliver the finish. *May 2023, Reviewed by Clive Pursehouse*

[94] *Wine Enthusiast* — Editors’ Choice —

The Andante is a stroll through a Vienna café filled with aromas of cappuccinos and croissants lightly touched with butter and raspberry jam. This café also has flowers, with notes of gardenia and jasmine filling the air. Cherry and cranberry flavors, with traces of orange peel and nutmeg, are a happy bonus. *April 2023*

[94] *Wine Spectator*

Graceful and alluring, with the silky texture grabbing your attention as this opens to elegantly rich raspberry, orange peel and fresh violet tones. Glides on the lingering, supple finish. *April 2023*

[94] *OwenBargreen.com*

This cooler vintage Pinot Noir reveals white truffle with fresh sage, red currants and salted salmonberry notes on the nose. The palate is smooth and refined, with a soft mouthfeel. Layers of bright red fruits parade with stony minerals and kumquat zest accents on the palate. *October 2022*

[94] *JebDunnuck.com*

I love the nose on this wine. Pouring a pale ruby with a brickish rim, it offers a lovely floral and red fruited perfume of raspberry coulis, candied roses, and beet root. Moving to the palate, it’s medium-bodied, with an elegant mouthfeel, fine, sweet tannins, and fresh and even acidity, all continuing through a long, graceful finish. This is a very pretty style to enjoy over the coming 10 years, and it’s in a gorgeous spot now. *September 19, 2023—Reviewed by Audrey Frick*

[93] *Ken’s Wine Guide*

This medium garnet colored Pinot Noir from Oregon opens with a pomegranate and raisin bouquet with hints of black raspberry and forest floor. On the palate, this wine is medium bodied with integrated medium acidity. The mouthfeel is nicely balanced, delicate, velvety, and savory. The flavor profile is tasty red plum and crushed stone blend with notes of black tea, and raisin. We also picked up some hints of red beet, pine resin, and sage. The finish is dry and its flavors linger and last for a very long time. *November 2, 2022*

[93] *Northwest Wine Report*

The aromas are immediately captivating, with notes of black tea, satsuma, flower, raspberry, and dried herb. The flavors bring delicacy, intensity, sophistication, and most of all length. It’s a complete knee-buckler. *January 27, 2023*

[92] *James Suckling*

This has a spicy character with ripe strawberry and dried cranberry aromas and flavors. Hints of chocolate and dry earth, too. Medium-bodied, textured and crunchy with vivid acidity and a polished tannin structure that turns smooth and silky in the finish. *April 2023*

Continues



**2019 Appassionata “Allegro” Pinot Noir  
Willamette Valley**

**[94] *Wine Spectator***

Graceful and detailed, with elegantly complex cherry and strawberry flavors, which are accented by forest floor and savory spices as this gathers structure and richness toward fine-grained tannins.

*Web Only 2023*

**[93] *Northwest Wine Report — Cellar Stocker —***

The aromas are effusive, with notes of orange rind, dark strawberry, raspberry, cinnamon, and forest floor. The palate is lithe, juicy, exuberant, and flavorful, a mix of layering and lightness. It's flat out delicious — a classic Willamette Valley Pinot. *January 27, 2023*

**[93] *OwenBargreen.com***

It is beautifully textured with a great combination of weight and finesse. Bright strawberry and Bing cherry flavors combine with blood orange zest and cinnamon sticks on the palate. This is delightful Pinot Noir. *October 2022*

**[92] *Decanter***

A mélange of savoury herbal notes, floral presence and squished red berries in summer mingle in the aromatic profile. The palate teases red berry fruits, backed by clove, fresh basil, thyme and crushed slate minerality and structured with ample lift.

*May 2023, Reviewed by Clive Pursehouse*

**[92] *James Suckling***

I like the savory undertones of dried seaweed and mushrooms alongside red and orange berry fruit. Tangy and juicy, with medium body and soft tannins. Plenty of flavor, with a fun zesty finish. *April 2023*

**[92] *JebDunnuck.com***

Spicy and expressive, the 2019 Pinot Noir Allegro pours a transparent red and is enveloping with aromas of wild cherry, medicinal herbs, leather, and pine needles. Medium-bodied, with fine tannins, it continues with its savory and spicy profile on the palate and has a bright spine of acidity, with notes of tea leaf on the finish, and it retains its elegance throughout. *September 19, 2023—Reviewed by Audrey Frick*

**[90] *Wine Enthusiast***

“Allegro” means play at a brisk, lively tempo. Talk about an aptly named wine, as its acidity is positively electric. White-peach and raspberry aromas mingle with touches of crunchy dried leaves, earth, and grilled meat. A fresh, lively mouthfeel introduces flavors like blackberries and thyme backed by modest tannins. *April 2023*

**[90] *Burghound***

Light ruby color. A relatively high-toned nose features assorted red berries, floral notes as well as plum nuances. The sleek and energetic light to barely middle weight flavors possess fine detail and sneaky good length on the dusty and youthfully austere finish where a touch of bitter pit fruit slowly emerges. This is sufficiently compact to need at least another 5 or so years of keeping. *April 2023*